FASHION INTERNATIONAL
NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD
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REVIEWED:

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SPRING/SUMMER '88 COLOR FORECAST

Colors for Spring/Summer '88 are softer, cleaner and whitened as if bleached by the elements. Tonal mixing continues, newest--black with pale pastels, brights with darks or white with darks. Brown from pale beige to chocolate gains in importance; peach and coral, the blued greens and greened blues are promotional shades Brights are less prominent than in prior seasons, replaced by pale neutrals and darks. Navy emerges as the key Summer dark.

Northern Lights...softly tinted shades for volume sportswear, dresses, outerwear and activewear. Powder blue, lemon ice, pale peach, shell pink, misty lilac, tender mint and platinum.

City Darks...deepened hues that mix with white or cream--important for sportswear when mixed with brights, prints, patterned knits and wovens. For head-to-toe dressing in the junior and young contemporary markets: claret, spinach, navy and chocolate.

Intense Brights...saturated colors for warm weather dressing--mixed with darks for stripes and bold prints; newest when combined with luggage brown. Engine red, slicker yellow, carib blue, parma violet and bright leaf green.

Whitened Pastels...fresh clear tones for missy sportswear. Hibiscus, coral reef, orange fizz, seafoam and lime.

Opaques...mid-level colors for bottom weights-- poplin, twill, canvas, basket and linen weaves. Taupe, bois de rose, sea green, raffia, pea green and slate.

Pivotals...black, white, luggage tan and sand.

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HOT SUMMER ACCESSORIES

Summer accessories follow two major trends: "The Big Country" look with the lure of the West; and "Modern Minimalism" focusing on sleek singular pieces. One similarity prevails-- the resurgence of silver. Silver pairs easily with turquoise, pearls, ruffles and naked leather for the West, and forms into disks, drops and spirals keeping close to the head and neck, for a contemporary look.

PATTI HORN manipulates both major trends in her extensive display of flat button earrings with a rope-like coil around a turquoise, pearl or clear stone center. Some dangling and square designs; but the round remains most exciting in sterling silver or gold-plated brass. An array of matching belt buckles complete the look. MONET presents a bold line of curvilinear shapes and pieces, as in the smooth silver bangle with a single, spiral loop molded on to the top. TRIFARI incorporates an architectural approach with geometric patterns etched in silver or gold on white background earrings.

CORO produces ovals and squares in silver clip earrings with ivory, coral or turquoise settings. Bracelets are linked or molded into sleek wide cuffs in silver or a burnished matte gold. AMY BRUNS uniquely sculpts a silver mesh into earrings and pins creating modern designs with hand-crafted appeal. Coconut chips are dyed in a variety of pastels and entangled with strands of silver to create a light, but chunky choker by GINA Z BIJOUX.

WENDY GELL has a lively new line: "Jun-Gell Jewelry". Made with real Bromiliad plants, these spider-like creations are guaranteed to blossom if you mist them twice a week-- on bracelets and pins, made to "grow" with the wearer.

Watch The Watch-- it's still going strong. Straps look best in leather, alligator, python and ostrich at GENIUS DILETTANTE with Roman numerals on marbelized round faces. SHANNONS ACCESSORIES matches a silk, polka dot band with the same face in pink, blue, black or white. Five rectangular faces interconnect a silver link bracelet at BALLANDA WATCH CORP.

TIMELY RECREATIONS introduces a new way to wear old watches by encrusting huge round pins with old watch faces and mechanisms, creating an interesting "skeletal" appeal. Some even have faux gems; but no two are alike.

A Hand in Glove-- feminine and pristine for Summer. CAROLINA AMATO crochets a variety of cotton gloves in a rainbow assortment of pastels. LA CRASIA creates a more "business" look in short, white cotton with a black bow at the wrist or 3 gold buttons on a black cuff. Nautical looks prevail in navy and white; for that "racy" appeal, FOWNES presents perforated, leather driving gloves in pale pink, grey, blue, yellow, peach and ivory.

Bow of the Ball-- bigger and better than ever. 14 to 16-inch linen, pastel solids or smaller printed fabrics in Pierre Deux or Liberty of London at MOSES CHERRY HAIR ACCESSORIES. WENDY GELL focuses on satin with lace, polka dots and animal prints. Denim and chambray are just in time for Summer with DAVID's line of solids and stripes, some with rhinestone centers.

STEP'N STONE, a new venture, creates an entire wardrobe of bows to clip on to shoes; favorites are the paisley, snakeskin and tuxedo bow.

Summer Shades-- either dark and severe or fun and funky. Elongated lenses that wrap around the eyes with minimal frames by EYE SPY. E&M INTERNATIONAL-- black lenses with "metallic brow" frames. TIGRE LIS keeps it light with tropical flowers and animals on the upper corners. GUESS SHADES?-- asymmetrical lenses in brightly colored frames.

SUMMER SEPARATES IN COOL CRISP COTTON

Summer silhouettes are kept loose and simple. Skirts remain long, as tops and jackets get cropped higher. The short skirt has gained in volume and is most often seen flared or tiered. Colors are hot, very Southern and sensual-- with the omnipresent black and white. Cotton prevails as the top fabrication, from woven cottons and linens to cotton knits, jersey and cotton blends.

The Lightweights: CALVIN KLEIN CLASSIFICATIONS uses handkerchief linen for a long pleated skirt worn with a one-button wrap blouse or a double-breasted short sleeve top in black, white, navy and cardinal. MICHAEL KORS prefers a tissue cotton gabardine for his single-buttoned, unlined blazer shirt and short bias cut swing skirt in black and white; MICHAEL SEROY presents a gold embossed "sequined group" on white, olive and indigo with a sleeveless mock turtle, long easy cardigan and full circle or slim pencil skirt. LIZ SPORT combines bright hues and western-wear with ruffled skirts and embroidered shirts in purple/green and red/green color ways. The "Carnival Brights", a South of the Border look, encourages layering of skirts and a mixing of patterns.

The Knits: ADRIENNE VITTADINI takes a hint from Gauguin in brilliantly colored, cap-sleeved crews that work well over a solid circle skirt or cropped pants. TRIC TRAC BY PHYLLIS KEITLEN presents a Navajo theme with oversized, intarsia crews and beaded fringed bottoms over slim skirts and pants in orange, lemon, turquoise and white. MARY JANE MARCASIANO pairs a scooped-neck, cropped white top with a pink cotton knit cardigan and capri pants. MADY GERARD creates body-conscious combinations in a cotton/rayon blend of long skirts with elasticized waist and side slits or back-button detail; topped by a long striped jacket in slate and white, with printed jacquard cuffs and low lapel.

The Look of Denim: LIZWEAR presents "Summer's Runaway Blues" in pale chambray tops and indigo button-fly shorts, skirts and pants. The "Feminine Mystique" boasts lacy petticoats and floral prints with denim skirts and jackets in softer colors. GUESS prefers the stonewashed look in pedal pushers, minis and the three zipper pant-- jackets are cropped. MARITHE & FRANCOIS GIRBAUD trim the pockets and cuffs of their baseball jacket in blue and white "work stripes." Pants are fuller with paper bag waists and zig-zag stitching while Egyptian hieroglyphics inspire graffiti prints; black and white denim is stll important and the "new" mini is longer!

SUMMER COORDINATES: A FEMININE APPEAL

Romance is back-- and although no one wants to return to the age of corsets, American women are searching for a blend of sophistication and femininity. Outfits that go from office to Summer house, and feel comfortable in both. Soft colors predominate and combine with subtle patterns.

MAUREEN CULLINANE presents that appropriate mix of "town and country." Silver flowers adorn a hand-loomed, black cotton sweater over a silver and black linen damask skirt with a bow-tied wrap waist and linen crinoline embroidered at the hem. A floral cotton sweater jacket with a fitted back tuck looks perfect over a cotton dobby skirt with a cascading back bow, in petal pink or spearmint green.

SCOTT McCLINTOCK creates casual silhouettes with a touch of lace-- a long sleeve, button front V-neck with lace collar over a full skirt with yoke and lace petticoat hem, both in 100% cotton lawn. "Bernadette", a floral rose on white pima cotton print, comes in a short sleeve double-breasted blouse with square collar over a high waist, yoke skirt with lace petticoat.

CASTLEBERRY KNITS projects a more professional look-- in a short-sleeve, pointelle ribbed sweater and tailored cardigan with a matching long, box pleated skirt in canary yellow and white. A stitched-down, pleated skirt and jewel neck sweater comes in a porcelain pink Optique (a wrinkle-proof polyester blend).

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"HOW TO BUY A FUR..."

Decided to buy the fur of your dreams? We suggest a trip to your local bookstore.

How To Buy A Fur That Makes You Look Like A Million by Viola Sylbert, is a very informative book written in a breezy style. From the processing of the hides and color and construction of the fur, to the pro and cons of the individual breeds, the author helps you select the right fur for your life-style.

An important plus are the chapters devoted to cleaning and storing procedures. And, for those who already own a fur, there are tips on revitalization! So, if you're seriously considering purchasing a fur and can't decide between the Crystal fox or the equally fashionable raccoon, this book will help you make an educated decision. ($8.95--Villard Books, 201 E. 50th St., NYC, 10022; 800-638-6460)

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